

**In the United States Patent and Trademark Office**

Applicants: David Grant Midkiff et al.      Docket No.: 15,780  
Serial No.:      Group:  
Filed:      Examiner:  
For: **RIGIDIFIED NONWOVEN AND METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME**  
  
Express Mail      EL471213132US

**Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney  
Original U.S. Patent Application  
Joint Inventors**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

As the below-named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our respective residence addresses, post office addresses and citizenship designations are as stated below, next to our names.

We believe that we are the original, first and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought in the patent application entitled:

**RIGIDIFIED NONWOVEN AND METHOD OF PRODUCING SAME**

the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that each of us has reviewed and understands the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims and any accompanying drawings as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in the oath or declaration.

We acknowledge our duty to disclose all information which is material to the patentability of this application as defined by 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

As the named inventors, we hereby appoint the following attorneys and/or agents to prosecute this application and transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected herewith:

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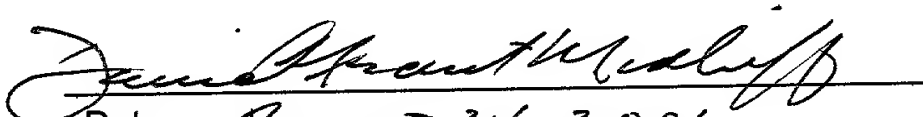
We hereby declare that:

1. All statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and
2. These statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this application or any patent issued thereon.

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First Named Inventor's Signature:



Date of Execution of this Document by First Named Inventor:

Date: August 24, 2001

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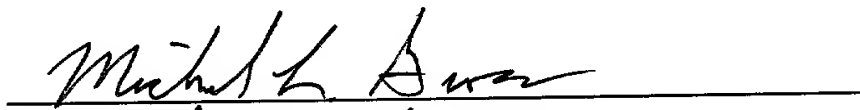
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